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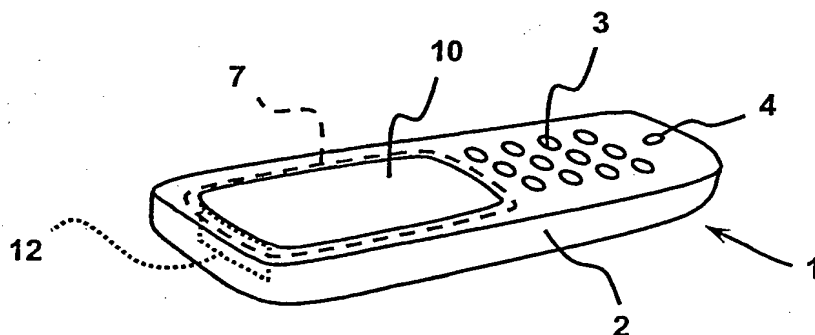
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(54) Title: **BENDING WAVE PANEL LOUDSPEAKER**



(57) Abstract: From one aspect, the invention is a method of making a bending wave panel loudspeaker, comprising rigidly coupling a lever (12) to a panel edge or marginal portion such that the lever (12) extends at an angle to the plane of the panel (7), coupling a bending wave exciter to the lever (12) whereby bending wave energy is coupled to the panel (7) to produce an acoustic output when the exciter is fed with a signal and supporting the panel on a suspension positioned

outboard of the lever. From another aspect the invention is a bending wave panel-form loudspeaker (13) having a lever (12) rigidly coupled to a marginal portion (16) or edge of the panel, a vibration exciter (9) coupled to the lever to apply bending wave energy to the panel (7) to produce an acoustic output and a panel suspension (17) positioned outboard of the lever. From a further aspect, the invention is a small electronic device, e.g. a mobile telephone (1) or PDA, having a display screen (10), and a transparent protective cover (7) over the display screen, wherein the transparent protective cover (7) is a loudspeaker as described above.